

Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas Market Potential Study

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Prepared for: Illinois Energy Efficiency SAG



- Overview of Analysis Approach
- ⊘ Primary Data Sources
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 - Overall Residential and Commercial potential
 - Savings by case and select years
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- ⊘ Key Takeaways
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Major Modeling Inputs and Sources





Peoples/North Shore foundational data

PGL/NSG gas 2023 sales by schedule

Current and forecasted customer counts

Retail price forecasts

Program & pilot data

Economic assumptions (avoided costs, discount rate, carbon value, etc.)

Previous potential study



presence of equipment

PGL: Implementation data

US Energy Information Administration: Residential, Commercial, and Manufacturing Energy Consumption Surveys (RECS 2020, CBECS 2018, and MECS 2015) Technical data on enduse equipment costs and energy consumption

Illinois TRM (v12 primarily)

US Department of Energy and ENERGY STAR technical data sheets

Energy Information Administration's Annual Energy Outlook/National Energy Modeling System data files State and Federal energy codes and standards

Illinois State Energy Code

Federal energy standards by equipment class



Market trends and effects

Annual Energy Outlook purchase trends ENERGY STAR sales data

Levels of Savings

- Technical: At every opportunity, customers choose the most efficient option regardless of cost
- Economic: Includes only cost-effective measures, but assumes 100% of customers participate
 - This study uses the Total Resource Cost test (TRC)
- Achievable: A subset of economic potential that accounts for likely measure adoption within the market
 - Requires forecasts of adoption rates
 - AEG modeled two levels of achievable potential:
 - **Realistic** achievable potential reflects current customer willingness to participate and incentives consistent with current programs
 - **Maximum** achievable potential applies a "lift" factor to the base adoption rates, representing maximum incentives and customers' ideal program delivery





Adoption Rates

Methods and example

- Market research from the previous potential study included residential customer willingness-to-participate
 - Furnaces were tested with varying incentive amounts and payback periods (see previous study report for documentation)
 - Customers were also asked about a hypothetical 100% incentive, direct-install weatherization upgrade, which sets a strong maximum participation level
- Measures not included in the previous research (including C&I) were assigned adoption rates derived from prior AEG studies elsewhere, but scaled to be in proportion to the Peoples Gas/North Shore Gas research (see right)





Market Characterization and Baseline

Market Characterization

Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas

Natural Gas Consumption by Sector in 2023 (Million therms)

	Peoples Gas	North Shore Gas	Total
Residential	864	181	1,045
Commercial	588	124	712
Industrial	78	32	110
Total	1,529	337	1,866

Natural Gas Use by Sector (2023)



- Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas loads are majority residential (56%)
- Majority of customers use gas for both space heating and water heating
- Other end uses, including Industrial process account for just ~14% of gas loads

All Sector Natural Gas Consumption by End Use, 2023



Residential Market Characterization

Residential Totals by Segment

Segment	2023 Gas Use (Million therms)	Households	therms/HH	% of Annual Use
PGL Single Family*	419	359,832	1,165	40.1%
PGL Single Family LI*	72	82,975	864	6.9%
PGL Multifamily	235	684,463	343	22.5%
PGL Multifamily LI	138	372,980	370	13.2%
NSG Single Family	181	149,449	1,212	17.3%
Total	1,045	1,649,699	3,954	100%



* To save space, this table abbreviates Peoples Gas to 'PGL', North Shore Gas to 'NSG', Low Income to 'LI', and Households to 'HH'

- Residential space and water heating saturations taken from joint utility implementation assessments.
 - Values compare well with the federal Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS) 2020 data for Illinois when filtered for natural gas customers
- Initial values for gas consumption by individual technologies comes from a mix of building simulations and technical data from the Energy Information Administration
 - Prior market research was used to inform building characteristics for simulation
- ⊘ Use per customer is calibrated to actual bill data.
 - This ensures derived savings include the impacts from the current efficiency mix and real behavior of customers



Commercial Market Characterization



Commercial Totals by Segment

Segment	Peoples Gas (Thousand therms)	North Shore Gas (Thousand therms)	Total (Thousand therms)	% of Commercial
Office	84,829	17,582	102,410	14%
Restaurant	31,921	7,922	39,844	6%
Retail	23,775	11,757	35,531	5%
Grocery	12,888	4,256	17,144	2%
College	41,892	6,057	47,950	7%
School	94,896	17,594	112,490	16%
Health	139,365	29,436	168,801	24%
Lodging	52,231	1,772	54,003	8%
Warehouse	5,125	3,192	8,318	1%
Miscellaneous	100,937	24,362	125,299	18%
Total	587,859	123,931	711,790	100%

- Primary source for breaking commercial gas loads down comes from the federal Commercial Building Stock Assessment (CBECS) 2018 data
 - Overall therms per square feet
 - End use and technology saturations
 - Age and size of buildings to inform simulations



Industrial Market Characterization



Industrial Totals by Segment

End Use	Peoples Gas (Thousand therms)	North Shore Gas (Thousand therms)	Total
Space Heating	4,719	1,940	6,659
Process	47,915	19,695	67,609
Miscellaneous	25,118	10,324	35,443
Total	77,752	31,959	109,711





- Previous potential study (2020) included Industrial within Commercial, but some additional insight is gained in separating it
 - However, the loads are too small to meaningfully break individual segments/manufacturing types
- Data from the 2019 Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey (MECS) helps break industrial gas loads into end uses

Baseline Projection

Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas

Peoples Gas Baseline Projection





- Overall use of natural gas is projected to slightly decline from 2024-2045.
- Customer growth projections were provided by Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas through 2028; AEG extended the trends through 2045
 - Overall market growth is ~0.8% per year
- Solution Building shells and equipment have some natural improvement over time based on:
 - U.S. Dept. of Energy's Annual Energy Outlook building decay/renovation rates
 - Equipment lifetimes and efficiency codes & standards

Codes, Standards, and Market Impacts

Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Combined All-Sector Gas Projections



- The baseline includes the impacts of federal furnace and water heater standards on all equipment turnover, as well as Illinois energy code for new construction and renovations
- Some customers may also choose above-minimum code equipment at time of replacement or construction
 - Projections for the efficiency of replacement and new equipment is taken from the Dept. of Energy's Annual Energy Outlook national stock forecast model and ENERGY STAR sales data
 - Estimated potential savings on following slides do not include these "naturally occurring" higher-efficiency installations

Peoples Gas:

Residential and Commercial Savings (Draft)

Draft Potential Summary

therms), Selected Years	2025	2026	2027	2030	2035	2045	
Baseline Forecast (Million therms)	1673	1673	1672	1671	1669	1670	
Cumulative Savings (Million therms)							
Realistic Achievable Potential	12	24	37	73	137	243	
Maximum Achievable Potential	17	33	50	98	175	287	
Economic Potential	25	50	75	145	257	413	
Technical Potential	60	121	181	349	595	902	
Energy Savings (% of Baseline)							
Realistic Achievable Potential	0.7%	1.5%	2.2%	4.4%	8.2%	14.6%	
Maximum Achievable Potential	1.0%	2.0%	3.0%	5.9%	10.5%	17.2%	
Economic Potential	1.5%	3.0%	4.5%	8.7%	15.4%	24.8%	
Technical Potential	3.6%	7.2%	10.8%	20.9%	35.6%	54.0%	



Economic Potential



Peoples Gas

Residential and Commercial Savings, Selected Years



Residential Top Measures

5.0%

4.7%

4.2%

3.1%

3.0%

2.2%

1.7%

1.6%

1.2%

0.8%

0.7%

0.6%

0.5%

0.5%

0.2%

0.1%

99.5%

100.0%

119,198

119,770

17.741

18,035

66.672

67,196

Peoples Gas – Realistic Achievable Potential



Total of Top 20 Measures

Total Cumulative Savings

pump, were an option in the model

Thousand

therms

Residential Top Measures

Peoples Gas – Technical Comparison





Tech Econ MAP RAP

- Some measures have significant technical potential but do not yet meet the threshold for Economic Potential:
 - Dual fuel (aka hybrid) heat pumps replacing furnaces
 - Combination heat pumps serving both space and water heating needs
 - Upgrading insulation and windows in buildings that are below current code
- Peoples Gas may continue to monitor these measures or consider them for pilot or custom programs

Commercial Top Measures

Peoples Gas – Realistic Achievable Potential



- While boilers are the #1 measure, more space heat savings come from controls and weatherization than from equipment upgrades
- Savings account for interaction/overlap between measures like thermostats, automatic radiator controls, and equipment upgrades

#	Measure / Technology	Cumulative 2027 Savings (000 therms)	Cumulative 2035 Savings (000 therms)	Cumulative 2045 Savings (000 therms)	% of Total
1	Boiler – TE 98%	1,369	5,328	10,468	10.4%
2	Connected Thermostat - ENERGY STAR (1.0)	979	3,627	6,547	6.5%
3	Gas Boiler - Smart Radiator Controls	876	3,297	6,201	6.2%
4	Insulation - Wall Cavity	1,036	3,600	6,198	6.2%
5	Water Heater – TE 96%	812	3,321	5,998	6.0%
6	Commercial Laundry - Ozone Treatment	703	2,813	5,274	5.2%
7	Gas Boiler - Insulate Steam Lines/Condensate Tank	809	2,752	4,590	4.6%
8	Unit Heater – Infrared Radiant	704	2,902	4,540	4.5%
9	HVAC - Energy Recovery Ventilator	712	2,546	4,477	4.5%
10	Gas Boiler - Condensate Recovery System	564	2,079	3,789	3.8%
11	Destratification Fans (HVLS)	626	2,167	3,718	3.7%
12	Insulation - Ceiling	560	1,919	3,239	3.2%
13	Ventilation - Demand Controlled	560	1,897	3,142	3.1%
14	Gas Boiler - Thermostatic Radiator Valves	458	1,680	3,092	3.1%
15	Gas Boiler - Steam Trap Replacement	392	1,369	2,382	2.4%
16	Gas Boiler - Hot Water Reset	357	1,253	2,192	2.2%
17	Furnace – TE 90%	278	1,113	1,990	2.0%
18	Infiltration Control - Loading Dock Sealing	284	1,058	1,966	2.0%
19	Gas Boiler - Stack Economizer	300	1,092	1,965	2.0%
20	Broiler – Infrared Burners	296	1,169	1,863	1.9%
	Total of Top 20 Measures	12,676	46,982	83,631	83.2%
	Total Cumulative Savings	15,268	56,709	100,516	100.0%

Commercial Top Measures

Peoples Gas – Technical Comparison





■ Tech ■ Econ ■ MAP ■ RAP

- As in Residential, some measures with large technical potential do not yet meet the threshold for Economic Potential, including heat pump replacements for furnaces
- Other measures with high technical but much less economic potential include:
 - Boiler upgrades to condensing systems in several segments
 - Advanced controls for rooftop packaged HVAC systems
 - High efficiency window upgrades

North Shore Gas Residential and Commercial Savings (Draft)

Draft Potential Summary

North Shore Gas - Residential and Commercial Combined Savings

Summary of Energy Savings (Million therms), Selected Years	2025	2026	2027	2030	2035	2045
Baseline Forecast (Million therms)	464	464	464	465	467	470
Cumulative Savings (Million therms)						
Realistic Achievable Potential	3	7	11	21	39	69
Maximum Achievable Potential	5	10	15	30	52	84
Economic Potential	7	14	22	43	74	117
Technical Potential	15	30	45	88	151	230
Energy Savings (% of Baseline)						
Realistic Achievable Potential	0.7%	1.5%	2.3%	4.5%	8.4%	14.6%
Maximum Achievable Potential	1.1%	2.1%	3.2%	6.4%	11.2%	17.9%
Economic Potential	1.6%	3.1%	4.7%	9.2%	15.9%	24.9%
Technical Potential	3.3%	6.5%	9.8%	18.9%	32.3%	48.9%



Savings by Sector, Selected Years

North Shore Gas





Residential and Commercial Savings, Selected Years

Residential Top Measures

North Shore Gas – Realistic Achievable Potential







Measure mix is similar to Peoples Gas, however North Shore Gas has a more homogenous, mostly single-family (>99.5%) residential segment which shifts some measure ranking around

#	Measure / Technology	Cumulative 2027 Savings (Thousand therms)	Cumulative 2035 Savings (Thousand therms)	Cumulative 2045 Savings (Thousand therms)	% of Total
1	Connected Thermostat - ENERGY STAR (1.0)	988	3,629	6,336	27.4%
2	Thermostat - Programmable	724	2,698	4,810	20.8%
3	Water Heater (<= 55 Gal)	131	1,577	3,111	13.5%
4	Home Energy Management System (HEMS)	323	1,142	1,920	8.3%
5	Water Heater - Thermostatic Shower Restriction Valve	285	1,006	1,733	7.5%
6	Insulation - Ceiling Installation	212	759	1,283	5.6%
7	Furnace – AFUE 97%	489	929	1,153	5.0%
8	Building Shell - Whole-Home Aerosol Sealing	128	456	767	3.3%
9	Combination Boiler - High Efficiency	90	381	675	2.9%
10	Fireplace – >75% FE	39	194	346	1.5%
11	Boiler – AFUE 95%	34	160	340	1.5%
12	Clothes Washer - CEE Tier 2	24	104	187	0.8%
13	Gas Boiler - Steam Trap Replacement	18	67	117	0.5%
14	Gas Boiler - Smart Radiator Controls	15	55	95	0.4%
15	Laundry - Ozone Treatment	10	34	53	0.2%
16	Windows - High Efficiency (ENERGY STAR 7.0)	1	13	50	0.2%
17	Clothes Dryer – CEFD2 3.83	80	80	35	0.2%
18	Home Energy Reports	24	32	30	0.1%
19	Water Heater - Pipe Insulation	5	16	28	0.1%
20	Water Heater - Shower Timer	5	16	25	0.1%
	Total of Top 20 Measures	3,626	13,348	23,096	100.0%
	Total Cumulative Savings	3,629	13,351	23,097	100.0%

Commercial Top Measures

North Shore Gas – Realistic Achievable Potential



- Different segment mix from Peoples Gas moves some measures down in ranking, such as Connected Thermostats
- However, other than ranking, the makeup of the top measures remains similar – Boilers at the #1 position with space heating controls and weatherization contributing the majority of savings

lse	#	Measure / Technology	Cumulative 2027 Savings (000 therms)	Cumulative 2035 Savings (000 therms)	Cumulative 2045 Savings (000 therms)	% of Total
	1	Boiler – TE 98%	281	1,105	2,203	9.6%
	2	Destratification Fans (HVLS)	274	964	1,696	7.4%
	3	Insulation - Wall Cavity	259	910	1,592	6.9%
g	4	Connected Thermostat - ENERGY STAR (1.0)	231	862	1,572	6.9%
ξ	5	Gas Boiler - Smart Radiator Controls	170	644	1,219	5.3%
	6	Unit Heater – Infrared Radiant	176	736	1,171	5.1%
tion	7	Water Heater – TE 96%	144	593	1,084	4.7%
s	8	Commercial Laundry - Ozone Treatment	134	539	1,022	4.5%
	9	Insulation - Ceiling	171	594	1,020	4.5%
	10	HVAC - Energy Recovery Ventilator	146	523	924	4.0%
	11	Gas Boiler - Insulate Steam Lines/Condensate Tank	159	544	918	4.0%
	12	Gas Boiler - Condensate Recovery System	108	399	734	3.2%
	13	Ventilation - Demand Controlled	112	377	615	2.7%
	14	Gas Boiler - Thermostatic Radiator Valves	89	328	609	2.7%
	15	Infiltration Control - Loading Dock Sealing	80	303	568	2.5%
	16	Furnace – TE 90%	72	290	531	2.3%
	17	Broiler – Infrared Burners	75	300	485	2.1%
	18	Gas Boiler - Steam Trap Replacement	78	274	481	2.1%
	19	Gas Boiler - Hot Water Reset	69	245	433	1.9%
	20	Gas Boiler - Stack Economizer	58	214	389	1.7%
		Total of Top 20 Measures	2,886	10,746	19,263	84.1%
		Total Cumulative Savings	3,438	12,836	22,912	100.0%



Technical Comparison

North Shore Gas





Commercial Cumulative Savings in 2045 (Million therms)

■ Tech ■ Econ ■ MAP ■ RAP

■ Tech ■ Econ ■ MAP ■ RAP

Key Takeaways





- Upcoming federal equipment standards changes will reduce customer loads, but constrain opportunities for cost-effective program savings
- The majority of potential has shifted from equipment upgrades to building shell and control systems
- Heat pump technologies and advanced control systems have promising technical potential, but require targeted strategies
- Custom projects may also provide a path to more savings

Planned Scenarios





Once the reference case is finalized, AEG will create duplicate model sets that vary the foundational input assumptions:

✓ Electrification Scenario

- Will explore the impact on gas loads and savings potential
- All-electric new construction option

⊘ Avoided Emissions Sensitivity

 Removes the carbon value from avoided costs to assess what measures are cost effective purely from their gas efficiency savings

✓ Climate Future Scenario

 Replaces the 20-year Normal weather data with projected Cooling and Heating Degree Days representing changes in climate

Thank You!

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Supplemental Slides

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Avoided Costs

Values escalate according to projections for carbon and gas commodity costs







